# THE WEEKLY SUNBEAM.

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## CHRISTMAS NUMBER

### CHRISTMAS.

By Fred Smith.

This well known festival which occurs on the 25th. of December, is celebrated in every civilized country. In America and England it is midwinter, and the ground covered with snow, while in Australia, South America, and India, it is midsummer, with flowers blooming all around: the inhabitants eat their Christmas dinner out in the gardens or summer-houses while in the first named countries they have dinner in the house with a blazing wood fire.

At this time of year mothers and fathers are out shopping, so as to ma ke their children happy: and of course the store-keepers are doing a rushing business in all their departments.

In Canada where the lakes and ponds are frozen, people of all nations are assembled for a grand sleigh-ride or a skate on the ice, which with a band of musicians they pass the day very pleasantly until dinner time when they disperse and go home where a sumptuous dinner is awaiting them.

In America and England there is generally a Christmas tree in all houses, around which the little ones assemble to receive their presents, and have a pleasant time with their little friends.

In Australia the inhabitants generally go off on a picnic, where they must have a very pleasant time until dark.

In India the climate at this time competes with our hot summer. The parents and their families in all probability assemble under a tent, open around the sides and are attended to by male slaves who carry cooling beverages to relieve them from the great heat of the country.

### The Color Of Water.

Two theories are usually advanced to explain the blue color of water when seen in large masses, such as the Lake of Geneva or the Mediterranean Sea. Professor Tyndall's theory is that small solid particles suspended in the water do not reflect the lower or red rays of the spectrum. The other theory is that the color is due to the absorbent action of the water on the white light before and after these particles. However, re-

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HERE'S A CHANCE!

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## GENERAL NEWS.

We all feel very sorry to part with our dear friends, Mrs. Blair and her little son David, and Miss May Clayton who leave us next Saturday for Iquique, Peru; which place is Mrs. Blair's home.

Oscar Wilde has got so that he does not mind being mistaken for "Buffalo Bill," but when they pick him out for an Indian Corn Doctor, it "B-eaks his Heart." It is understood that he keeps his heart in the sole of his boot.

In June, July, and August 1883, thare will be 20,000 Masons visit California.

Said a gilded youth trying to quote poetry: "Oh, woman in our house of ease, uncertain and hard to please." I've forgotten the rest, 'twas those two lines that impressed me best.

The Sacramento BEE issued its Xmas number on Saturday, a 16 page paper, containing well-selected matter and a number of well-written contributions, besides all the news of the day.

Lordsburg N. M., has been connected with Clifton A. T. by telegraph.

We all thank Mrs. Blair for her kindness in giving all the children presents, as she will soon leave us.

## CHRISTMAS AT LOCUST GROVE.

Christmas is over, but it will be a long time before any of us forget it, and we don't think we ever shall. We began our Christmas on Christmas Eve, and if you had seen the three great Turkeys, the Terrapin Stews and the Plum Puddings come in to the dining rooms, and then see them go out or rather the dishes on which they had been, you would have thought our appetites were a credit to Locust Grove wether we were or not -- However, the next day was the event, the day on which we were to have our Christmas tree. At about day-break the Locust Grove Band of about 20 pieces gave a serenade; (One Picolo, a drum and the rest old oil cans.) After we had taken a slight walk and delighted our neighbors we came in to breakfast. During the rest of the day we occupied our time in decorating the Christmas tree for the evening. At 7 o'clock the bell rang and everyone entered the school room to receive their presents, and the time passed quickly and happily until all retired to bed, some carrying their presents with them to dream over.

*We have delayed this issue of the Sunbeam as we wished t insert all about Christmas at Locust Grove.*

*Christmas is over, but Vacation is not;*

# HURRAH!!!

## Subscription Rates.

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## The Puzzler.

### CONUNDRUMS.

1 Why is a sailor like the letter D?

2. What notes compose the most "favorite tunes, and how many tunes do they compose?

3. Why is cutting off an elephant's head different from cutting off any other head?

4 Which are the two kings that reign in America?

### CHARADE.

I'm not what I was, but the very reverse;
I'm what I was, which though bad is now worse.
And all the day long I do nothing but fret,
Because I can't be what I never was yet.

## Answers.

Answers to Entertaining Column in No. 14.

CHARADE.

1. Ostrich-feather.

CONUNDRUMS.

1. Daughter.

2. Because he thought that it was a good opening for a young man.

3. Because he has tendrils and shoots.

4. Because it covers its face with its hands, and runs down its own works.

5. Because they have eyes and ears, and neither see nor hear.

Correct answers received from the S. C. to Charade, and Conundrums No. 1, 3, and 5.

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cent experiments by Mr. John Aitken, communicated to the Royal Society, show that the latter theory is the most probable.

The greater the number of white reflecting particles, the greener the water appears to be, and hence the gradual deepening of the green to blue as the shore is left.

The waters of Lake Como owe their darkness to the absence of reflecting particles; those of Lake Geneva owe their brilliant blue tinge to the presence of such particles.

Mr. Aitken produced a similar blue in Lake Como by throwing finely divided chalk in the centre of that lake.

The brilliancy of the color depends on the shade of the particles, and is the greatest with white particles.

Springs often yield a bright blue water, but our American rivers are generally dull owing to the dingy color of the silt.

As we have made our paper larger, the advertisements we had before now fail to fill our advertising columns; so anyone wishing to insert an ad, just send it in, only 10 cts per inch.

JOB PRINTING DONE HERE.

Written expressly for the Sunbeam in its new dress. Xmas, 1882.

Sunbeam; 'tis no unfitting time for me,
Some kindly words of greeting to send forth to thee:
Some words of praise, thou bright and fairy ray
Coming to cheer us on this happy day.

Gentle, and tender dawn of morning light,
Enter our homes with radience warm and bright;
Dispel, in every hidden corner all that tells
Of unkind thought, where jealous envy dwells.

Be to us all, a gleam from sunny skies:
Welcomed by all, and read with eager eyes;
Sent forth, by young and hopeful hearts to bless,
To empty pockets — a complete success.

## WAIFS AND STRAYS.

A tribute to the ubiquity of the Hibernians was the exclamation of an old lady upon hearing that Cavendish and Burke had been assasinated in Dublin by Irishmen: "Massy sakes! you don't tell me the Irish have got into Ireland?"

Washington is described as an Eden of beauty and repose in summer-time. There is a tree and something over to every two persons -- men, women, and children -- in the whole city, and a lamp-post to every half-dozen stranded office-seekers.

Some Utah miners located a town last winter on what appeared to be an eligible plateau. In the spring they discovered, to their dismay, that their embryo metropolis had settled down toward the bottom of a rocky gulch eighty feet deep, through which a river was running. City lots stood up edgewise, and could be bought for a song.

A man whose reason was dethroned by the perplexities incidental to telephonic communication is in an Iowa poor-house. He betrays his mental condition by calling out at brief intervals, "Hello! Hello!"


## ADVERTISEMENTS.

*RICHARDSON BROS.,*
214 DUPONT ST.
**SAN FRANCISCO, CALA.**

Popular Music, wholesale and retail:—
1 piece.....10 cts.
5 pieces.....30 "
10 pieces.....50 "
nov27 5t

## JOB PRINTING

neatly and promptly executed at this office. Briefs, Invitations, Cards, Billheads, Circulars, and all kinds of Job and Fancy Work at lowest prices.

Mr. Wegner is happy to tell his customers that he has sold the entire amount of his Christmas goods.


The weather has been quite disagreeable lately, but it looks as though it was about to clear off and be pleasant